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Washington State
Employment Security Department

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In cooperation with
the Employment and
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U.S. Department of Labor

Washington Labor Market

Volume 9, Number 3 March 1985

HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment Down Seasonally

Unemployment in Washington State fell from 224,200 and 10.9 percent (revised) of the labor force in January to 212,700 and 10.4 percent in February. (Data are not seasonally adjusted.) The reduction in unemployment resulted from seasonal job growth in agriculture, construction, services and education, and continued expansion in aerospace. The seasonal job expansion will pick up momentum this spring and summer resulting in further reductions in unemployment. Compared with February 1984, total employment was up 38,100, while the number of jobless workers was down 5,500. The unemployment rate was 10.8 percent in February 1984 compared

	Feb. 1985* (Prel.)	Jan. 1985 (Rev.)	Feb. 1984
Civilian Labor Force	2,053,600	2,057,000	2,021,000
Total Employment	1,840,900	1,832,800	1,802,800
Total Unemployment	212,700	224,200	218,200
State Unemployment Rate	10.4	10.9	10.8
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	7.8	8.0	8.4

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more nearly comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates developed for Federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

with 10.4 percent this February. Labor market conditions have also improved nationally. Nationally, the jobless rate fell from 8.0 in January to 7.8 percent in February. The rate for the nation in February 1984 was 8.4 percent. (Data are not seasonally adjusted.)

Puget Sound Economy Improves But Lumber Areas Lag

While total employment in the state expanded over the year and total unemployment declined, most of the job growth and reduction in unemployment occurred in the Seattle and Tacoma metropolitan areas. This, however, is no surprise since aerospace has accounted for most of the increase in manufacturing jobs over the year. Aerospace is the largest manufacturing industry in the Puget Sound area. The Seattle area's employment growth between February 1984 and 1985 (up 40,700) alone exceeded the statewide jobs gain (up 38,100), while unemployment in the area fell 4,000 to account for nearly three-fourths of the statewide drop in unemployment (5,500). The unemployment rate for the Seattle Metropolitan Area fell from 8.7 percent in February 1984 to 7.9 percent in February 1985. Both rates were below comparable statewide rates (10.8 and 10.4 percent, respectively). Moreover, the year-to-year employment growth rate in the Seattle Metropolitan Area's labor market was greater than that for the nation as a whole. Between February 1984 and 1985, total employment in the Seattle area rose 5 percent versus a 12-month gain of 2.7 percent for the nation. Unemployment, however, fell 5.2 percent in the Seattle Metropolitan Area over the year versus a drop of 5.4 percent for the nation. The relatively large employment expansion in the Seattle area apparently attracted new job-seekers, preventing a larger drop in unemployment.

Aerospace Major Employer For Tacoma Residents

Although most aerospace jobs in this state are located in the Seattle Metropolitan Area, the industry employs thousands of Tacoma area residents who commute to King County. Aerospace, in fact, employed approximately 18 percent of all Tacoma Metropolitan Area manufacturing workers according to the 1980 Census of Population. Between February 1984 and 1985, total employment of Tacoma area residents rose 3,500, or 2.1 percent. Unemployment dropped 1,200 or 5.8 percent. The expansion in aerospace was obviously a factor. Although the jobless rate for the Tacoma area in February 1985 of 10.1 percent was well above the rate for the Seattle Metropolitan Area, it was below the statewide rate of 10.4 percent. In February 1984, the rate in the Tacoma Metropolitan Area was slightly above the statewide rate.

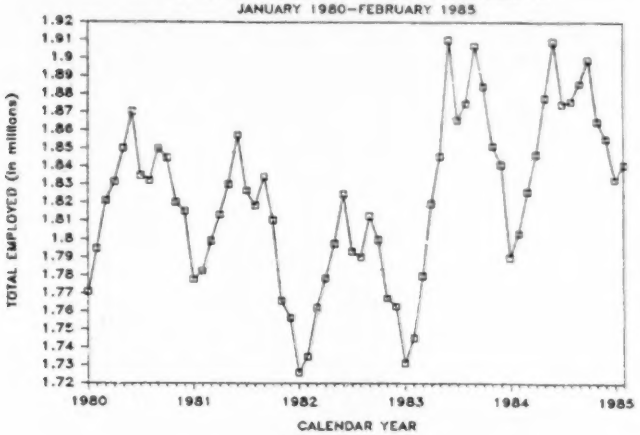
Recovery Fades In Lumber Areas

In contrast with improving economic conditions in the Puget Sound area, labor market conditions have deteriorated in areas of the state where the lumber industry is a major source of manufacturing jobs. Unfortunately the cause appears to be rooted in long term problems such as

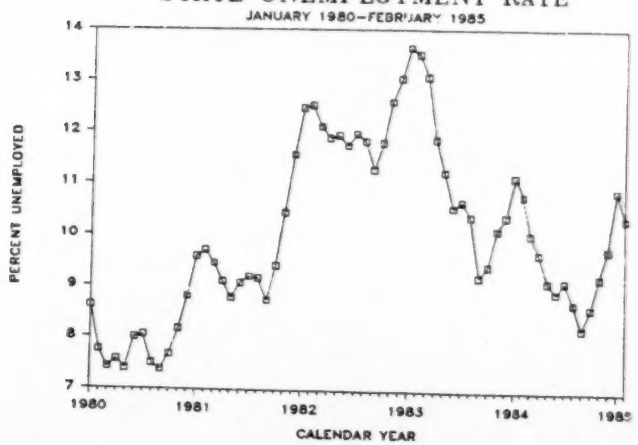
growing competition with lower cost producers in Canada and the southern United States, the strength of the dollar, and labor-saving technology. Lower mortgage rates would boost the demand for lumber from builders, but it would not return employment of lumber workers to prerecession levels.

Statewide, lumber employment in February was down 10 percent over the year. Reflecting these cutbacks, unemployment in most logging and lumber communities has increased over the past 12 months. In Grays Harbor County the jobless rate rose from 14.5 percent in February 1984 to 16.5 percent in February 1985. The rate in Pacific County jumped from 16.7 to 23.3 percent year to year. In Mason County, the jobless rate rose from 12.4 to 14.1 percent year-to-year. Jobless rates in these and other lumber areas will likely decline in the spring and summer months as demand for lumber products increases seasonally. However, they will remain high in comparison to previous years and will continue to exceed rates in areas with more diversified economies.

STATE TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



STATE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Manufacturing employment rose 900 from January to February and was up 6,600 over the year. Growth in aerospace jobs alone exceeded the total increase in manufacturing, both in the January-February period and over the year. Fortunately, the expansion in aerospace has been sufficient to more than offset losses in other industries. The more sizable cutbacks over the year occurred in lumber and in the "other transportation equipment" category (mainly shipbuilding).

Between January and February, aerospace employment moved up 1,300 to more than offset losses of 500 in lumber and 300 in the volatile food products industry. The outlook in aerospace continues to be one of the few bright spots in the state manufacturing picture. Analysts expect increasing orders from airlines because of their improving financial condition and increased air travel. Declining fuel prices and stable labor costs have boosted airline profits, and new low cost fares are attracting more customers which will require additional aircraft.

Export-Import Bank Loans May Continue

Another positive sign for aerospace is a U.S. Senate Budget Committee decision to support legislation which would permit the Export-Import Bank to continue making direct loans for the foreign purchase of American products. In the past, loans from the bank have been used to finance the purchase of Boeing aircraft by foreign countries. Boeing contends that the loans are needed to force Airbus Industries, its European competitor, to stop providing subsidized low interest loans to attract business. The Reagan Administration had proposed eliminating the direct-loan program in favor of a loan guarantee, interest subsidy program. The Senate proposal would set aside a $1 billion fund for direct loans to be used in "exceptional circumstances" and expand the proposed interest rate subsidy program.

The loss of 500 jobs in the lumber industry in February resulted from a plant closure and temporary cutbacks because of exceptionally cold and snowy weather. Employment in the industry will expand this spring and summer as demand for lumber products picks up along with seasonal growth in the homebuilding industry. Growth in the lumber industry will likely be below normal, however. Because of low prices for lumber products, many Washington lumber firms have not been able to operate profitably. Some firms, such as Weyerhaeuser, are seeking wage concessions from their employees. According to one industry report, an average mill in Western Washington and Oregon pays $71 in labor costs for each 1,000 board feet of lumber produced, compared with $47 for mills in interior British Columbia and $45 for those in the southern United States.

Weyerhaeuser To Lay Off 700

The Weyerhaeuser Company announced in early March that it would lay off 700 employees in Cowlitz County over the next two months. Union members had rejected work-rule changes. Weyerhaeuser said rule changes plus wage and benefit cuts would be required to restore the jobs. According to the International Woodworkers of America their members are not willing to take wage and benefit cuts, but would make other concessions to help make mills more profitable.

Wage Cuts in Metals & Construction Industries

Wage and benefit cuts have become fairly common over the past year as firms seek to compete with producers in foreign countries or in other parts of the nation where labor costs are lower. Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation union workers nationally and in this state recently agreed to a $1.84 cut in hourly wages and a $2.66 per hour cut in benefits in exchange for Kaiser preferred stock. About 83 cents of every dollar in cuts will be applied to stock purchases. Kaiser has aluminum operations in Spokane and Tacoma. The company was in danger of bankruptcy. Workers at the Atlas Foundry in Tacoma rejected a wage cut contract in March but it will take effect anyway because they also voted against a strike. Details of the reductions were not announced, but Fick Foundry workers, also in Tacoma, accepted a $1.80 per hour reduction in wages. Company contributions to medical and dental plans were also trimmed. Construction workers have also taken cutbacks. About 800 area union electricians have been affected by a 20 percent wage reduction for all construction work in Southwest Washington. Members of the Operating Engineers have accepted a 15 percent wage cut on some projects and 20 percent at firms building modules for the oil industry in Alaska. Workers in other industries have also taken cutbacks and more are in the offing.

NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

In the nonmanufacturing industries, services led the expansion both between January and February (up 2,400) and over the year (up 14,800). Nearly all segments of the industry expanded from their annual lows in January. Bookkeeping-accounting firms added staff to prepare income tax returns, but gains were also noted in hotels-motels, amusement establishments, business services and private education. Public education rose 2,100 in February, but the gain only returned employment back to near its November level. Education payrolls were trimmed in December for the holiday break. By February the new term, of course, was well underway.

Tax Season Creates Jobs

Weather Delays Construction Expansion

Construction payrolls rose 700 between January and February. This gain was well below seasonal expectations because of inclement weather. Rather than improving, weather conditions were worse in February than in January. February brought snow and subfreezing temperatures to most of the state. The return of moderate weather in March should see above average growth in construction jobs, especially those in outdoor projects.

Retail Trade Off But Easter is Coming

Employment in retail trade fell 2,300 in February, but the drop was entirely seasonal and resulted from the end of January sales and inventory work. Seasonal factors will turn positive in March and employment at retail stores will expand. Stores selling bedding plants, garden and lawn care products will be the first to expand. Restaurants and gasoline stations will also see business increase as improved weather sparks wanderlust in local residents. Stores selling boats and other recreational vehicles will expand, while department and apparel stores will see added business as consumers purchase spring and summer clothing.

THE NATIONAL CONTEXT: Indicators Show Positive Tilt

National economic indicators were mainly positive in February, suggesting that the economy will continue to expand for at least several more months. The Index of Leading Economic Indicators rose seven-tenths of a percent in February, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. In January the index rose 1.5 percent (revised), the largest increase in more than a year. The Department projected a 2.1 percent increase in the Gross National Product for the first quarter 1985, down from a 4.3 percent growth rate in the fourth quarter of 1984. The Department now expects growth to accelerate based on the change in the leading indicators and a 4.8 percent February rise in new orders for plant and equipment. Some economists are not so optimistic, citing a decline in the average workweek in manufacturing, from 40.6 hours in January to 40.0 hours in February, and a drop in factory orders for consumer goods.

Based on a survey of 1,400 executives, Dun and Bradstreet Corporation said that business expectations for second quarter sales, profits, inventories, employment and new orders have increased. Retail sales were already expanding. According to the Commerce Department, retail sales rose 1.4 percent in February to post their largest gain since November 1984. Sales were up 0.5 percent in January following a decline of 0.3 percent in December (data are seasonally adjusted). On the negative side, housing starts fell from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.84 million units in January to 1.64 million units in February. The drop, however, resulted from a large decline in apartment building which followed an even sharper increase in the previous month. Construction starts and single family homes rose 5.3 percent in February.

EXPANSIONS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Pursuing An Atom Collider

Washington may compete with 15 to 20 other states for a Department of Energy $4 billion atom collider. Construction would be started in 1987 and be completed in the 1990's.

There are three possible sites for the collider in Washington; Roy, Ephrata, and Wilbur near the Grand Coulee Dam. The structure, when completed, would be 20 to 30 miles in diameter. The colliders, ten foot wide tubes, would be buried 30 feet underground in a circular ditch up to 90 miles long. The project could result in 3,000 jobs and attract other high technology industries to the state.

Pursuing an Auto Plant-- A Possibility of 6,000 Jobs

General Motors is considering Washington as a possible site for a new $5 billion auto plant which could create up to 6,000 new jobs. The plant might create up to 22,000 related jobs as well. Some 30 states have sent delegations to General Motors hoping to win the plant. Washington has a strategic advantage if the company decides to import parts from the Far East.

Danish Ships in Tacoma

Maersk Line of Copenhagen announced it has chosen Tacoma as its terminal for containership service between the Pacific Northwest and the Far East. The ships will begin calling on June 2. Port officials hope the line will create about 600 jobs both directly and indirectly. Maersk will bring about 40,000 to 60,000 20 foot container units through the port in the first year.

MCI Communications Corp. Expanding In Seattle

MCI Communications Corp., the nation's second largest long distance telephone carrier, has plans to expand its operations in Seattle. The company, with a staff of 25 in Seattle now, plans to expand to 100 workers by the end of 1985.

Garment Firm Expanding

BRB Manufacturing Inc. of Sumner plans to expand from its 100 present employees to 150 workers. BRB has tentative approval from the Economic Development Corp. of Pierce County for $990,000 in tax-free industrial revenue bond financing to fund its facility expansion.

The company president says the garment industry has regained some of the domestic business from overseas manufacturers because retailers are ordering smaller numbers of garments at a time on shorter notice. New fabrics not yet available in the Orient help American manufacturers compete as well, she said. The company has made special efforts to hire women receiving public assistance.

Yakima County Plans Expansion

The Yakima County Chamber of Commerce has contracted for a Target Industry Marketing Analysis intended to identify key elements to create a positive long-term economic development plan for the county. The second phase of the economic development plan is the creation of the Yakima County Economic Development Association, which will implement the results of the study. The association is expected to begin operations in early 1986.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE			
				Year Ending		2 Months Ending	
	Feb 1984	Jan 1985	Feb 1985	Jan 1985	Feb 1985	Jan 1985	Feb 1985
U.S. City Average	306.6	316.1	317.4	3.6	3.5	0.3	0.6
Seattle-Everett	NA	319.5	NA	3.5	NA	0.4	NA

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/
(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Feb. 1985 (Prel.)	Jan. 1985 (Rev.)	Feb. 1984	Jan. 1984	Change Jan. 85 to Feb. 85	Change Feb. 84 to Feb. 85
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY	1,639.1	1,636.4	1,591.7	1,579.5	2.7	47.4
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	283.4	282.5	276.8	272.6	0.9	6.6
Durable Goods	198.5	197.5	193.3	190.0	1.0	5.2
Lumber & Wood Products	36.2	36.7 3/	40.3	39.2	-0.5	-4.1
Furniture & Fixtures	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.1	0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	6.1	6.1	5.8	5.7	0.0	0.3
Primary Metals Industries	12.8	12.9	13.4	13.1	-0.1	-0.6
Aluminum Prod. & Processing	8.5	8.4	8.9	8.6	0.1	-0.4
Fabricated Metal Products	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.0	0.0	0.1
Machinery	28.0	27.8	27.5	26.7	0.2	0.5
Machinery (exc. electrical)	16.1	15.9	16.7	16.1	0.2	-0.6
Electrical & Electronic Equip.	11.9	11.9	10.8	10.6	0.0	1.1
Transportation Equipment	87.7	86.4	79.7	79.0	1.3	8.0
Aerospace	73.8	72.5	63.4	62.9	1.3	10.4
Other Transportation Equip.	13.9	13.9	16.3	16.1	0.0	-2.4
Instruments & Related Prod.	10.4	10.4	9.8	9.8	0.0	0.6
Misc. Manufacturing Indus.	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.3	0.0	0.3
Nondurable Goods	84.9	85.0	83.5	82.6	-0.1	1.4
Food & Kindred Products	27.8	28.1	28.4	27.5	-0.3	-0.6
Canned & Preserved Foods	8.8	9.1	9.1	8.1	-0.3	-0.3
Apparel & Other Text. Products	6.2	6.3	6.1	6.0	-0.1	0.1
Paper & Allied Products	15.9	16.0	15.7	15.9	-0.1	0.2
Printing & Publishing	17.0	16.9	16.1	16.1	0.1	0.9
Chemicals & Allied Products	10.9	10.7	10.2	10.2	0.2	0.7
Other Nondurable Goods 2/	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	0.1	0.1
MINING & QUARRYING	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
CONSTRUCTION	71.0	70.3	68.4	66.5	0.7	2.6
TRANSP. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	88.2	88.4	86.9	86.8	-0.2	1.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	398.6	401.5	385.7	388.2	-2.9	12.9
Wholesale Trade	100.5	101.1	98.9	97.9	-0.6	1.6
Retail Trade	298.1	300.4	286.8	290.3	-2.3	11.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	94.1	94.6	92.6	92.5	-0.5	1.5
SERVICES	353.9	351.5	339.1	334.5	2.4	14.8
GOVERNMENT	347.4	345.1	339.7	335.9	2.3	7.7
Federal	68.9	68.8	67.1	66.9	0.1	1.8
State & Local	278.5	276.3	272.6	269.0	2.2	5.9
Education	155.9	153.8	153.0	149.8	2.1	2.9
Workers in Labor Management Disputes	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during pay period including the 12th of the month.

2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastics products, petroleum and refining and related products, and leather products.

3/ Excludes workers involved in labor-management disputes.

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

March 26, 1985
Benchmark 1984

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	February 1985 Preliminary 1/				January 1985 Revised 1/			
	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State Total	2,071,000	1,851,200	219,800	10.6	2,065,800	1,840,700	225,100	10.9
Bellingham MSA	50,700	44,400	6,300	12.4	50,200	43,600	6,600	13.1
Bremerton MSA	65,300	60,500	4,800	7.4	65,100	60,100	5,000	7.7
Olympia MSA	60,900	54,700	6,200	10.2	60,500	54,300	6,200	10.2
Seattle PMSA	938,500	862,500	76,000	8.1	937,300	858,000	79,300	8.5
King County	736,000	678,500	57,500	7.8	733,900	675,000	58,900	8.0
Snohomish County	202,500	184,000	18,500	9.1	203,400	183,100	20,300	10.0
Spokane MSA	161,100	144,500	16,600	10.3	160,600	144,000	16,600	10.3
Tacoma MSA	195,200	174,900	20,300	10.4	195,300	174,700	20,600	10.5
Tri-Cities MSA 2/	70,700	61,100	9,600	13.6	70,600	60,700	9,900	14.0
Vancouver PMSA	93,100	83,600	9,500	10.2	92,800	83,400	9,400	10.1
Yakima MSA	78,300	63,500	14,800	18.9	77,100	62,700	14,400	18.7
Adams	6,690	5,600	1,090	16.3	6,600	5,500	1,100	16.7
Asotin	8,400	7,410	990	11.8	8,340	7,360	980	11.8
Clallam	19,160	16,100	3,060	16.0	19,440	15,770	3,670	18.9
Columbia	1,800	1,380	420	23.3	1,740	1,330	410	23.6
Cowlitz	33,110	28,300	4,810	14.5	32,820	28,260	4,560	13.9
Ferry	2,560	2,080	480	18.8	2,470	2,020	450	18.2
Garfield	1,020	900	120	11.8	1,020	890	130	12.7
Grant	21,700	18,020	3,680	17.0	21,130	17,620	3,510	16.6
Grays Harbor	29,560	24,570	4,990	16.9	29,820	24,460	5,360	18.0
Island	15,630	14,000	1,630	10.4	15,280	13,690	1,590	10.4
Jefferson	6,420	5,530	890	13.9	6,420	5,510	910	14.2
Kittitas	10,930	9,170	1,760	16.1	10,890	9,140	1,750	16.1
Klickitat	6,870	5,270	1,600	23.3	6,780	5,250	1,530	22.6
Lewis	24,090	19,740	4,350	18.1	24,060	19,660	4,400	18.3
Lincoln	3,820	3,510	310	8.1	3,730	3,430	300	8.0
Mason	10,950	9,370	1,580	14.4	11,030	9,360	1,670	15.1
Okanogan	14,090	10,900	3,190	22.6	14,230	10,840	3,390	23.8
Pacific	7,050	5,370	1,680	23.8	7,100	5,410	1,690	23.8
Pend Oreille	4,090	3,420	670	16.4	4,080	3,410	670	16.4
San Juan	3,710	3,290	420	11.3	3,720	3,280	440	11.8
Skagit	32,910	27,260	5,650	17.2	32,760	26,740	6,020	18.4
Skamania	2,860	1,910	950	33.2	2,750	1,850	900	32.7
Stevens	11,420	9,230	2,190	19.2	11,300	9,240	2,060	18.2
Wahkiakum	1,110	920	190	17.1	1,180	890	290	24.6
Walla Walla	24,780	21,760	3,020	12.2	24,630	21,510	3,120	12.7
Wenatchee Labor Area 3/	36,850	31,430	5,420	14.7	37,440	31,850	5,590	14.9
Whitman	15,820	15,150	670	4.2	15,540	14,870	670	4.3

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Includes Benton and Franklin counties.
3/ Includes Chelan and Douglas counties.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

Research and Analysis

Washington State
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

Date: March 28, 1985
Benchmark: 1984

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	February 1985 Preliminary 1/				January 1985 Revised 1/				February 1984 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State Total	2,053,600	1,840,900	212,700	10.4	2,057,000	1,832,800	224,200	10.9	2,021,000	1,802,800	218,200	10.8
Bellingham MSA	50,300	44,200	6,100	12.1	49,900	43,400	6,500	13.0	50,800	44,500	6,300	12.4
Bremerton MSA	64,800	60,200	4,600	7.1	64,900	59,900	5,000	7.7	63,400	58,500	4,900	7.7
Olympia MSA	60,300	54,300	6,000	10.0	60,300	54,100	6,200	10.3	59,000	52,600	6,400	10.8
Seattle PMSA	931,200	857,700	73,500	7.9	933,400	854,400	79,000	8.5	894,500	817,000	77,500	8.7
Spokane MSA	159,800	143,700	16,100	10.1	159,900	143,400	16,500	10.3	156,200	141,600	14,600	9.3
Tacoma MSA	193,500	173,900	19,600	10.1	194,400	173,900	20,500	10.5	191,200	170,400	20,800	10.9
Tri-Cities MSA 2/	70,000	60,700	9,300	13.3	70,300	60,400	9,900	14.1	73,100	62,400	10,700	14.6
Vancouver PMSA	92,400	83,200	9,200	10.0	92,500	83,100	9,400	10.2	91,500	81,900	9,600	10.5
Yakima MSA	77,400	63,100	14,300	18.5	76,800	62,400	14,400	18.8	83,700	68,000	15,700	18.8
Adams	6,620	5,570	1,050	15.9	6,580	5,480	1,100	16.7	7,050	6,000	1,050	14.9
Asotin	8,330	7,370	960	11.5	8,310	7,330	980	11.8	8,040	7,260	780	9.7
Clallam	18,970	16,010	2,960	15.6	19,360	15,700	3,660	18.9	18,740	15,780	2,960	15.8
Columbia	1,780	1,370	410	23.0	1,730	1,320	410	23.7	1,910	1,480	430	22.5
Cowlitz	32,790	28,140	4,650	14.2	32,680	28,140	4,540	13.9	32,700	28,350	4,350	13.3
Ferry	2,530	2,060	470	18.6	2,450	2,010	440	18.0	2,550	2,080	470	18.4
Garfield	1,020	900	120	11.8	1,020	890	130	12.7	1,140	1,030	110	9.6
Grant	21,480	17,920	3,560	16.6	21,040	17,550	3,490	16.6	22,130	18,600	3,530	16.0
Grays Harbor	29,270	24,440	4,830	16.5	29,700	24,360	5,340	18.0	29,090	24,870	4,220	14.5
Island	15,490	13,920	1,570	10.1	15,220	13,630	1,590	10.4	15,140	13,560	1,580	10.4
Jefferson	6,360	5,500	860	13.5	6,390	5,490	900	14.1	6,300	5,540	760	12.1
Kittitas	10,810	9,110	1,700	15.7	10,840	9,100	1,740	16.1	11,300	9,520	1,780	15.8
Klickitat	6,780	5,240	1,540	22.7	6,740	5,220	1,520	22.6	6,960	5,470	1,490	21.4
Lewis	23,840	19,630	4,210	17.7	23,960	19,580	4,380	18.3	23,960	20,330	3,630	15.2
Lincoln	3,790	3,490	300	7.9	3,710	3,410	300	8.1	4,320	3,920	400	9.3
Mason	10,850	9,320	1,530	14.1	10,980	9,320	1,660	15.1	10,910	9,560	1,350	12.4
Okanogan	13,920	10,840	3,080	22.1	14,170	10,790	3,380	23.9	14,910	11,810	3,100	20.8
Pacific	6,960	5,340	1,620	23.3	7,070	5,390	1,680	23.8	6,840	5,700	1,140	16.7
Pend Oreille	4,050	3,400	650	16.0	4,070	3,400	670	16.5	4,090	3,480	610	14.9
San Juan	3,680	3,270	410	11.1	3,700	3,260	440	11.9	3,440	3,040	400	11.6
Skagit	32,570	27,100	5,470	16.8	32,630	26,630	6,000	18.4	32,700	27,440	5,260	16.1
Skamania	2,810	1,890	920	32.7	2,740	1,840	900	32.8	2,790	1,990	800	28.7
Stevens	11,290	9,180	2,110	18.7	11,260	9,210	2,050	18.2	11,900	9,720	2,180	18.3
Wahkiakum	1,100	920	180	16.4	1,180	890	290	24.6	1,270	970	300	23.6
Walla Walla	24,550	21,630	2,920	11.9	24,530	21,420	3,110	12.7	25,110	21,940	3,170	12.6
Wenatchee Labor Area 3/	36,510	31,260	5,250	14.4	37,280	31,720	5,560	14.9	36,160	30,770	5,390	14.9
Whitman	15,700	15,060	640	4.1	15,480	14,810	670	4.3	16,360	15,760	600	3.7

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series. Official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates, which must be used for Federal program purposes, are available upon request.

2/ The Tri-Cities MSA includes Benton and Franklin Counties.

3/ The Wenatchee Labor Area includes Chelan and Douglas counties.

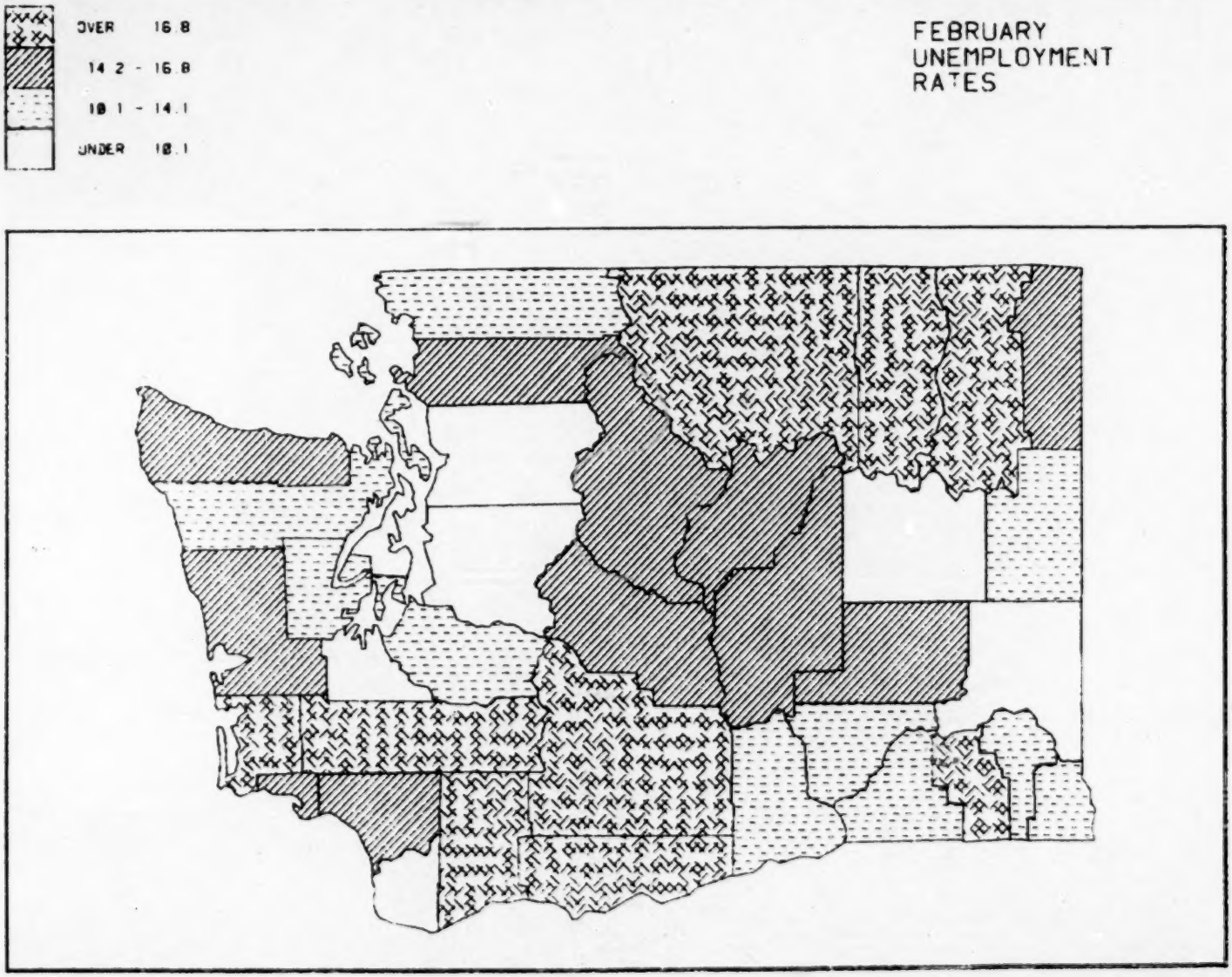
NOTE: Detail may not add due to rounding.

Research and Analysis Branch

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	FEB. 1985 Prod. or Nonsup. Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		FEB 1985	JAN 1985	FEB 1984	FEB 1985	JAN 1985	FEB 1984	FEB 1985	JAN 1985	FEB 1984
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES *	175,800	$441.18	$443.48	$454.35	38.0	38.1	39.0	$11.61	$11.64	$11.65
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber & wood products.....	32,600	370.70	405.60	432.44	33.7	35.3	38.1	11.00	11.49	11.35
Primary metal industries.....	9,900	541.15	538.54	548.15	39.5	38.8	40.1	13.70	13.88	13.47
Fabricated metal products.....	7,100	448.53	449.16	459.15	38.5	39.4	40.1	11.65	11.40	11.45
Machinery.....	17,000	349.88	352.13	388.11	37.5	37.5	38.2	9.33	9.39	10.16
Food & kindred products.....	21,100	361.97	362.25	357.83	36.6	37.5	36.7	9.89	9.66	9.75
Chemicals & allied products...	5,300	559.57	565.82	529.62	42.2	42.8	42.1	13.26	13.22	12.58
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction.....	51,300	578.57	574.46	603.33	35.3	35.2	35.7	16.39	16.32	16.90
Wholesale and retail trade....	246,600	312.80	307.44	304.27	34.0	33.6	33.4	9.20	9.15	9.11

* Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not fully reflect the official U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages". While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earnings data.


OVER 16.8
14.2 - 16.8
12.1 - 14.1
UNDER 12.1
FEBRUARY
UNEMPLOYMENT
RATES